

CLAIMS:

1. A management system for the management of medical data, notably medical image data and medical reports, which system includes a memory (4) for storing the medical data in the form of data sets (8 to 11) which include a plurality of data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85), code generating means (6) for generating and assigning identification codes (712, 752, 831) to data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85), and also a reading device (12) for reading the identification codes (712, 752, 831), characterized in that the code generating means (6) are arranged to generate identification codes (712, 752, 831) which enable linking to the data sets (8) associated with the data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) and/or further data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) present in the associated data sets (8), and that linking means (13) are provided for linking data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) to the associated data sets (8) on the basis of the identification codes (712, 752, 831).

2. A management system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the linking means (13) are arranged in such a manner that when an identification code (712, 752, 831) is read, information is output concerning further data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) present in the associated data set (8).

3. A management system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the linking means (13) are arranged in such a manner that when an identification code (712, 752, 831) is read, one or more data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) of the associated data set (8) are displayed on a display device (16).

4. A management system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the code generating means (6) are arranged to generate and apply the identification codes (712, 752) to the data set elements (71 to 76) in the form of hard copies, notably to medical images or reports presented as hard copies, in a machine readable form, notably in the form of a bar code.

5. A management system as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the code generating means (6) are arranged for the direct or indirect application of the identification codes (712, 752) to the data set elements (71 to 76) presented as hard copies, notably by printing on the hard copies or by applying labels to the hard
5 copies.

6. A management system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the code generating means (6) are arranged to generate and assign identification codes (831), particularly in the form of readable and selectable links, to data set
10 elements (81 to 85) presented in the form of digital data, notably in the form of data files.

7. A method for the management of medical data, notably medical image data and medical reports, wherein the medical data is stored in the form of data sets (8 to 11) which include a plurality of data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) and wherein identification
15 codes (712, 752, 831) are associated with the data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85), characterized in that the identification codes (712, 752, 831) are generated in such a manner that they enable linking to the data sets (8) associated with the data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) and/or to further data set elements (71 to 76, 81 to 85) present in the associated data sets (8).